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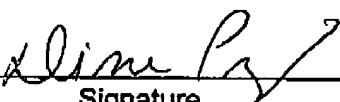
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Response B (29 pages)

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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN THE APPLICATION OF: CONFIRMATION NO. 8944  
**GOLDSCHNEIDER ET AL** CASE NO.: FA0952 USNA  
APPLICATION NO.: 09/887,414 GROUP ART UNIT: 3623  
FILED: JUNE 22, 2001 EXAMINER: VAN DOREN, B.  
FOR: NETWORK-BASED BUSINESS PROCESS FOR IMPROVING  
PERFORMANCE OF BUSINESSES

**Response B**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**Introductory Comments**

The following response is mailed in view of the Office Action mailed on August 8, 2006. Of claims 1-10, 34-37 and 46-58 pending in this application, claims 11-33 and 38-58 have been withdrawn and claims 1-10, 34-37 and 49 pending in this application have been rejected.

Amendment to the specification section starts on page 2 of this response.

Amendment to claims section starts on page 3 of this response.

Remarks section starts on page 21 of this response.